

A NEW IRON SCALE

ADOPTED IN PITTSBURGH, PENN.

by the Western Iron Manufacturer's Alliance—The Puddling Scale Reduced to Four Dollars a Ton—Why the Action was Taken—Talk With Workmen.

PITTSBURGH Jan. 14.—The Western Iron Manufacturers' Alliance met in annual session in the hall of the Western Iron Association, Hostetter building, Fort Pitt avenue, this morning at 11 o'clock. The organization was effected two years ago and is having been its third regular meeting for the purpose of taking cognizance of changes and terms of labor, and thus to save the Iron and the Nail Association from all such business. The meeting this morning was larger than any previous annual session, there having been several men as many present to-day as there were one year ago. All the districts were present either in person or by proxy. The object of the gathering was to begin

the year. This subject was brought up in the day and elicited very considerable interchange of opinion, all of which tended toward unanimity of sentiment. The proposition was made by a member, that it was impossible longer to maintain the present tariff, and that, if maintained, the competition in the East had become so close, the reduction there frequent—without any reduction in the rest whatever—and the depression in business so marked and prolonged, that it was better to be ready to adapt to the exigencies of the old tariff. The proposition met with general approval, and it was added the opinion that reductions in prices in all leading articles might reasonably be regarded as permanent. The inflation rates, which reached their maximum in 1862, had been reduced to the normal rate, and the business

There was no prospect apparent that the grading downward had not arrived at a point beyond the reach of fluctuations to interfere with materially.

These views were followed by a resolution declaring that the rate for puddling should be the same as the present scale year after year, the present scale year being \$1.00 per ton, and that the puddling scale be graded down proportionately.

The resolution was adopted without dissent. An election for officers was then held and the officers re-elected. These names are not usually reported for publication, but it is well known Mr. A. F. McKing is president and Mr. Joseph D. Smith secretary.

The Agricultural Association held

Secretary Martin was asked as to the probable reception of the proposition for a reduction. "I have nothing to say," he. "It is their privilege to say." Whatever proposition that suits them. It is up to them to consider it."

Ex-President Grant, who was present, said that the one dollar rate had not prevailed in Pittsburgh since early in 1861. In 1880 the rate for puddling was \$3 50 per ton or \$3 75 in merchandise. In the winter of 1875-6, for a few months preceding the adoption of the yearly scale, the rate was \$4 75. The proposed cut is 25 per cent.

Another Dynamic Outrage.

LONDON, Jan. 14.—The town hall organist, in Wiltshire, was partially paralyzed by an eruption of dynamic heat.

hit. Several houses in the neighborhood were badly shaken and many windows shattered, and several persons were thrown to the ground by the violence of the shock. The report of the explosion was heard for two miles around.

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